



## Proposed Changes to Substitute Teacher Requirements (N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7)

### Background

On February 4, 2015, the Department of Education [proposed regulations](#) to the State Board of Education that:

1. Over the course of a 5-year period, raise the bar for substitute credential qualifications to ensure that all students have access to quality instruction regardless of whether their teacher is out; and
2. Make it easier for qualified substitutes to stay in the classroom longer – particularly for extended leaves of absence – to help ensure continuity in the classroom.

### Major Changes From Current to Proposed Regulations

#### Changes Applicable to All Substitutes

| Topic  | Current                 | Proposed   |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Study requirements for substitute credential</b>                | 60 credits              | Bachelor's Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exception for matriculated teacher preparation candidates with at least 60 general credits towards a bachelor's degree including (or in addition to) 20 credits in content area</li> <li>• Exception for career and technical education subs with 2 years of full-time work experience within the past 5 years</li> <li>• Effective date of January 1, 2016 for new substitutes; those with existing 5-year credential may substitute until it expires</li> </ul> |
| <b>Creation of secure database of qualified subs for districts</b> | Not currently in policy | To be created  |

#### Changes in Service Limits (By Credential)

| Credential  | Current Service Limit<br>(In Same Class Per Year)  | Current Service Limit<br>(In Same Class Per Year)  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Substitute Credential; Ed Services or Admin. Certificates</b>  | 20 instructional days, extendable to 40  | 20 instructional days  |
| <b>Certificate of Eligibility (CE) or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) <u>not</u> in subject area of classroom where substitute is placed</b> | 20 instructional days, extendable to 40  | 40 instructional days  |
| <b>Standard certificate <u>not</u> in subject area of classroom where substitute is placed</b>  | 40 instructional days  | 40 instructional days  |
| <b>CE or CEAS <u>in</u> subject area of classroom area where substitute is placed</b>   | 60 instructional days  | Unlimited time in classroom where teacher is absent but plans to return (i.e. non-“vacant” teaching positions) if candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holds CEAS and provisional certificate and has enrolled in or completed mentoring program</li> <li>• Holds CE and provisional certificate and has enrolled in or completed alternate route and mentoring programs</li> </ul> |
| <b>Standard certificate in subject area of classroom area where substitute is placed</b>  | Unlimited service in classrooms where teacher is absent but plans to return (i.e. non “vacant” teaching positions) | Unlimited service in classrooms where teacher is absent but plans to return (i.e. non “vacant” teaching positions)   |

### For More Information

- View the [Overview of Proposed Changes to Certification Requirements](#).
- To share questions or comments, please email [Chapter9b@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:Chapter9b@doe.state.nj.us).

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